

OXC-1403

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24 March 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

25X1

SUBJECT : Conversation with [redacted] and [redacted]
25X1 [redacted] 22 March 1961, Relative to Project OXCART
Selection Criteria

25X1 1. A fairly long meeting was held in my office 22 March on the question of psychological criteria for Project OXCART pilot selection. Without going into the mechanics of this discussion, I can briefly state the problem which is that the Lovelace Clinic now appears to have acquired a psychologist in a consulting capacity, and he has formulated a testing program of his own. 25X1 [redacted] had been under the assumption, as I was, that he and [redacted] would have primary responsibility for formulating the program of testing.

25X1 2. [redacted] captive psychologist, has outlined a program somewhat different from that proposed by [redacted]. The question of professional ethics now appears to rear its ugly head, and [redacted] and [redacted] are reluctant to superimpose their views on [redacted] at least not without a face-to-face discussion of basic objectives. It is our feeling that this can be accomplished without the necessity of clearing [redacted] for the Project, and accordingly, [redacted] tentatively plan to visit 25X1 Albuquerque the week of 9 April to meet with [redacted]

25X1 3. In the meantime I shall get in touch with General Flickinger on his return to the United States on 30 March from Naples and will see to what degree our influence can be brought to bear on Lovelace through Flickinger to alter the test objectives so that they will be more meaningful for our purposes. I explained to [redacted] that DPD was still looking to them as the focal point for centralizing our psychological criteria. I further stated that we intended to have no dealings on this subject with any of the Agency components whose parochial concerns might motivate them to demand a portion of this workload; i.e., Medical Staff; Assessment and Evaluation Staff, OTR; Risk-of-Capture Group; etc. I also stated that we had no desire to have the Air Force itself unilaterally determine the criteria for what was essentially a clandestine intelligence operation. 25X1

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4. [] will report to me as soon as a date can be arranged to go to Albuquerque, and I told them that I would report to them the substance of my discussions with Flickinger on his return.

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Assistant Chief
DPD-DD/P

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DPD-DD/P:JACunningham, Jr./mg

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